

A Bison Story.
About three months previous to my arrival at Fort Union, says a prairie hunter, in the height of the buffalo breeding season, when the bulls are sometimes very fierce, Joe was taking the Fort Union bull with a cart into a point on the river above the fort, in order to draw home a load of wood which had been previously cut and piled ready for transportation the day before, when a very large old bison bull stood right in the cart track, pawing up the earth, and roaring ready to dispute the passage with him. On a nearer approach, instead of flying at the sight of the man that accompanied the cart, the bison made a headlong charge, Joe had hardly time to remove his bull's headstall, and escape up a tree, being utterly unable to assist his four-footed friend, whom he left to his own resources. Bison and bull now in mortal combat, met midway with a shock that made the earth tremble. Our previously docile gentle animal suddenly became transformed into a furious beast, springing from side to side, whirling round as the buffalo attempted to take him in flank, alternately upsetting and righting the cart again, which he banged from side to side and whirled about as if it had been a handbox. Joe, safe out of harm's way, looked from the tree at his champion's proceedings, at first deploring the apparent disadvantage he labored under, from being harnessed to a cart; but when the fight had lasted long and furious, and it was evident that both combatants had determined that one or the other of them must fall, his eyes were open to the value of the protection afforded by the harness, especially by the thick, strong shafts of the cart against the short horns of the bison, who, although he bore him over and over again down on his haunches, could not wound him severely. On the other hand, the long, sharp horns of the brave Fort Union bull began to tell on the furrowed side of his antagonist, until the final charge brought the bison, with a furious bound, dead under our hero's feet, whose long fine drawn horn was driven deep into his adversary's heart. With a cheer that made the whole woods ring again, down clambered Joe, and while triumphantly celebrating, also carefully examined his victorious companion, who, although bruised and blown, and covered with foam, had escaped unhurt.

A Breakfast with Sam Rogers.

Many persons have heard of the breakfast table of Mr. Samuel Rogers, where, during the last fifty years, have been seated so many distinguished men of all nations. Food of society, and most agreeable himself in conversation, has been for years the centre of one of the pleasantest circles in London. He seems to have been attracted towards every man distinguished either by force of intelligence or force of character, and his tastes are so various, that there is room at his small breakfast table for the greatest diversity of guests, from the Duke of Wellington to the last young poet, whose timid volume has just been launched into the sea of literature. Mr. Rogers, who seems fond of Americans, was especially fond of Mrs. Bancroft, and so I received, by her means, an invitation to his breakfast-table. On Wednesday, August 10, at 10 a. m., I found myself at that classic board with four good guests. Mr. Rogers I found a charming old man of eighty-seven years, and except a little deafness, as active in body and mind as ever. He talked on all subjects, changing from grave to gay. He spoke of art and society, of time and eternity, and read and recited many things. He quoted lines from Halleck, and then calling for the work, he read the poem beginning "Green be the turf above thee," and said, "No man living can write such verses now." He recited, with much feeling, passages from Gray and from Milton's "Paradise Lost." He thought that Milton had put an argument in the mouth of Adam, complaining of his punishment, which he had not answered. "There's no answering that," said he, "there's no answering that, except, indeed," he added, "we admit that all punishment is corrective." He liked Gray's letters better than his poetry, and thought good prose usually better than his poetry. He spoke of life, and compared it to a river, hastening to its fall. At the end it hurries us along, so that we cannot notice what we are passing. "How well," said he, "I remember what I saw in my youth, when I went to the opera at Milan, in the evening, and said, to-morrow I shall be sitting on Lake Como." Sixty years ago I dined with the Duke of Koblenfurt and twelve others; in one year nine of them had died by the guillotine, or some violent death. Lafayette I saw every day. "He said it was one evil attending success in life, that it is apt to separate us from our families. Said he, 'Sir Thomas Lawrence told me, 'The day I got my medal, I put it on and went down stairs, but not one of my brothers asked me what it was. I went up to my room and cried. If I speak of any distinguished person, they say, you told us that before.'" The conversation fell upon Curran. Mr. Rogers said he was accustomed to use the most extravagant language. "I was walking with him in London, and he said, 'I had rather be hung on ten gibbets.' A girl passing by said, 'Would not one be enough?'" In this pleasant talk the hours flew by, and it was one o'clock before we knew it. But when the ladies rose to go, he asked me if I had seen the pictures in the British Institution, and said to Lord G., "Let us go there." After walking through the rooms, and pointing out to me some of his favorite pictures, he asked me if I was not engaged elsewhere, to breakfast with him again the next morning, to which I gladly consented.

—What is it that everybody dislikes, yet no one likes to lose—a lawsuit. —A clear conscience is the best law, and temperance the best physic. —When is a man thinner than a shingle—when he's shaving. —The man who had his head turned is now trying to carve out his fortune.

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